

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 3-10 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 4 are independent. The remaining claims depend directly from claim 3 or 4.

Claim amendments

Claims 9 and 10 have been amended by way of this reply to correct informalities. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, as support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Figure 3 and paragraph [0045] of the published application.

Objection

Claims 9 and 10 are objected to because the term "alarm message" has no antecedent basis in the specification. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended by way of this reply to replace the term "an alarm message" with "a message to inform that the watching starting time has come," which has antecedent basis, for example, in paragraph [0045] of the specification. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,134,131 ("Hendricks"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons set forth below.

The MPEP § 2131 makes it clear that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found either expressly or inherently in a single prior art reference. Applicant respectfully asserts Hendricks neither shows nor suggests all of the limitations of the claims.

Independent claim 3 requires, in part, "a watching reserving executing section operable to automatically cause the display control section to display the broadcasted image in the display section, *in a case where the one of the channels designated by the watching reserving information is selected when the watching starting time designated by the watching reserving information is reached, and the synthesized image is displayed in the display section.*" Also, independent claim 4 requires, in part, a watching reserving executing section operable to automatically cause the display control section to reduce the size of the OSD image, *in a case where the one of the channels designated by the watching reserving information is selected when the watching starting time designated by the watching reserving information is reached, and the synthesized image is displayed in the display section.*

Thus, claims 3 and 4 require that in a case where the one of the channels designated by the watching reserving information is selected when the watching starting time is reached, the synthesized image is displayed. Such a control process enables to prevent a user from missing his or her desired watching program (see, for example, paragraph [0006] of the published application).

Hendricks shows an "automatic tune" command as a function of a TV program guide system. However, the "automatic tune" merely tunes a preset channel prior to the start time of the program (*see*, column 33, lines 5-8 in Hendricks). Hendricks is silent with respect to the display of a synthesized image, as required by claims 3 and 4. Lacking the synthesized image, in case where the preset channel is selected when the watching starting time is reached, the user does not notice that the broadcast program of the preset channel has already started, and, as a result, may miss part of his or her desired watching program (*see*, paragraph [0006] of the published application). Thus, Hendricks neither shows nor suggests that in a case where the one of the channels designated by the watching reserving information is selected when the watching starting time is reached, the synthesized image is displayed, as required by the claimed invention.

In view of the above, Hendricks neither shows nor suggests the claimed invention as recited in claims 3 and 4. Accordingly, independent claims 3 and 4 are patentable over Hendricks. Dependent claims 5-8 are also patentable for at least the same reasons. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103


Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,734,853 ("Hendricks ('853)"). As discussed above, claims 3 and 4 are patentable over Hendricks. Hendricks ('853) does not provide that which Hendricks lacks with respect to Hendricks. Thus, claims 3 and 4 are patentable over Hendricks and Hendricks ('853). By virtue of their dependence, claims 9 and 10 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04995/118001).

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Respectfully submitted,

By  #45,079
Jonathan P. Osha THOMAS SCHLESER
Registration No.: 33,986
OSHA · LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant